

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
2 creating a session-based ad-hoc group (SBG) within a well-known ad-hoc group
3 (WKG) for impromptu interactions among unrelated mobile users, the WKG having a
4 WKG network configuration and a set of WKG interaction protocols, the SBG having
5 SBG network configuration and a set of SBG interaction protocols; and
6 advertising information pertaining to the SBG on the WKG.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein creating the SBG comprises
2 obtaining the WKG network configuration and the set of WKG interaction
3 protocols.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein obtaining the WKG network
2 configuration and the set of WKG interaction protocols comprises obtaining one of a
3 pre-configuration on a retail device, a downloadable client software, and a public
4 advertisement.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the WKG creating one of an open WKG
2 and a restricted WKG, the open WKG having no access control, the restricted WKG
3 having an access control to selected users.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein creating the SBG comprises:
2 creating one of an open SBG and a restricted SBG, the open SBG having no
3 access control, the restricted SBG having an access control to selected users.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein creating one of an open SBG and a
2 restricted SBG comprises:
3 selecting at least an administrator to manage access to the restricted SBG and
4 control changes to the SBG network configuration.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein advertising comprises:
2 selecting an advertising node according to a criteria within the SBG;
3 collecting information on the SBG;

4 periodically joining the WKG to broadcast the SBG information and to collect
5 information on the WKG or a nearby SBG; and
6 returning to the SBG to advertise the information collected on the WKG to SBG
7 members.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 joining the WKG according to user configuration.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein joining the WKG comprises:
2 joining the SBG.

1 10. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 partitioning one of the WKG and the SBG.

1 11. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 merging the WKG to one other WKG; and
3 merging the SBG to one other SBG.

1 12. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 enabling interaction among the unrelated mobile users within the WKG or the
3 SBG using the WKG interaction protocols or the SBG interaction protocols.

1 13. The method of claim 12 wherein enabling interaction comprises:
2 managing an application;
3 discovering at least one of a host, an application, and a user profile;
4 managing distributed resource; and
5 managing group information.

1 14. An article of manufacture comprising:
2 a machine-accessible medium including data that, when accessed by a machine,
3 causes the machine to perform operations comprising:
4 creating a session-based ad-hoc group (SBG) within a well-known ad-hoc group
5 (WKG) for impromptu interactions among unrelated mobile users, the WKG having a
6 WKG network configuration and a set of WKG interaction protocols, the SBG having
7 SBG network configuration and a set of SBG interaction protocols; and
8 advertising information pertaining to the SBG on the WKG.

1 15. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the data causing the
2 machine to perform creating the WKG comprises data that, when accessed by the
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising:
4 obtaining the WKG network configuration and the set of WKG interaction
5 protocols to a general public.

1 16. The article of manufacture of claim 15 wherein the data causing the
2 machine to perform obtaining the WKG network configuration and the set of WKG
3 interaction protocols comprises obtaining one of a pre-configuration on a retail device,
4 a downloadable client software, and a public advertisement.

1 17. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the WKG is one of an
2 open WKG and a restricted WKG, the open WKG having no access control, the
3 restricted WKG having an access control to selected users.

1 18. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the data causing the
2 machine to perform creating the SBG comprises data that, when accessed by the
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising:
4 creating one of an open SBG and a restricted SBG, the open SBG having no
5 access control, the restricted SBG having an access control to selected users.

1 19. The article of manufacture of claim 18 wherein the data causing the
2 machine to perform creating one of an open SBG and a restricted SBG comprises data
3 that, when accessed by the machine, causes the machine to perform operations
4 comprising:
5 selecting at least an administrator to manage access to the restricted SBG and
6 control changes to the SBG network configuration.

1 20. The article of manufacture of claim 19 wherein the data causing the
2 machine to perform advertising comprises data that, when accessed by the machine,
3 causes the machine to perform operations comprising:
4 selecting an advertising node according to a criteria within the SBG;
5 collecting information on the SBG;

6 periodically joining the WKG to broadcast the SBG information and to collect
7 information on the WKG or a nearby SBG; and
8 returning to the SBG to advertise the information collected on the WKG to SBG
9 members.

1 21. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the data further
2 comprises data that, when accessed by the machine, causes the machine to perform
3 operations comprising:
4 joining the WKG according to user configuration.

1 22. The article of manufacture of claim 21 wherein the data causing the
2 machine to perform joining the WKG comprises data that, when accessed by the
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising:
4 joining the SBG.

1 23. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the data further
2 comprises data that, when accessed by the machine, causes the machine to perform
3 operations comprising:
4 partitioning one of the WKG and the SBG.

1 24. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the data further
2 comprises data that, when accessed by the machine, causes the machine to perform
3 operations comprising:
4 merging the WKG to one other WKG; and
5 merging the SBG to one other SBG.

1 25. The article of manufacture of claim 14 wherein the data further
2 comprises data that, when accessed by the machine, causes the machine to perform
3 operations comprising:
4 enabling interaction among the unrelated mobile users within the WKG or the
5 SBG using the WKG interaction protocols or the SBG interaction protocols.

1 26. The article of manufacture of claim 25 wherein wherein the data causing
2 the machine to perform enabling interaction comprises data that, when accessed by the
3 machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising:

4 managing an application;
5 discovering at least one of a host, an application, and a user profile;
6 managing distributed resource; and
7 managing group information.

1 27. A system comprising:
2 a well-known ad-hoc group (WKG) for impromptu interactions among
3 unrelated mobile users, the WKG having a WKG network configuration and a set of
4 WKG interaction protocols; and
5 a session-based ad-hoc group (SBG) within the WKG to allow a user to interact
6 with other mobile users, the SBG having SBG network configuration and a set of SBG
7 interaction protocols, the SBG advertising information pertaining to the SBG on the
8 WKG.

1 28. The system of claim 27 wherein the WKG is an open or restricted WKG.

1 29. The system of claim 27 wherein the SBG is an open or restricted SBG.

1 30. The system of claim 29 wherein the SBG has at least an administrator to
2 manage access to the restricted SBG and control changes to the SBG network
3 configuration.